

June 2, 2022

The Honorable Laura Friedman Member, California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 8220 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2237 (Friedman): Transportation planning: regional transportation improvement plan: sustainable communities strategies: climate goals.

Notice of OPPOSITION

Dear Assembly Member Friedman,

The Town of Danville must respectfully oppose your measure AB 2237, which takes an overly prescriptive approach that impacts regional and local flexibility to meet the greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets expected under SB 375 (Steinberg, 2008).

We are concerned that AB 2237 is based on the conclusions of the California Transportation Assessment Report (AB 285, 2019) which used limited data and excluded local project-level data provided pursuant to SB 1 (Beall, 2017). Also, the report relies heavily on Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) data sets, which exclude many local complete streets and maintenance expenditures that are broadly consistent with state transportation climate goals, as well as significant transit funding.

As a result, the report incorrectly concludes that a disproportionate amount of transportation funds have been and continue to be spent on capacity-increasing highway and road projects. The report lacks important granular data such as transit operating and maintenance costs and local fix-it-first expenditures, which are not included in the FTIPs.

AB 2237 would also upend the existing framework for regional transportation planning in the state's metropolitan areas in favor of a new ranking process, which would prohibit any project that increases vehicle miles traveled. Local governments are working collaboratively to develop sustainable community strategies (SCS) to align regional transportation projects with the state's climate goals.

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Our communities rely on a safe and strong transportation infrastructure network. AB 2237 would threaten many fix-it-first and safety enhancement projects that may reach the state's climate goals, but don't reduce vehicle miles traveled.

For these reasons, the Town of Danville opposes AB 2237.

Sincerely,

NEWELL ARNERICH, MAYOR

cc: The Honorable Steven Glazer, <u>George.Escutia@sen.ga.gov</u>

The Honorable Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, John.Skoglund@asm.ca.gov

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